United States Embassy Seoul, Republic of Korea

Security Message for U.S. Citizens: Constitutional Court ruling scheduled for Friday, March 10, at 11 a.m.

Date: March 9, 2017

U.S. Embassy Seoul informs U.S. citizens that the Republic of Korea's Constitutional Court will announce its decision regarding the possible impeachment of President Park Geun-hye tomorrow (March 10) at 11:00 a.m.

Demonstrations may follow the court's announcement, regardless of the outcome. Previously, massive demonstrations have centered on Gwanghwamun Plaza (across from the U.S. Embassy), including the area between Seoul City Hall and Gyeongbokgung Palace. Demonstrations may also occur at other locations throughout Seoul and in other Korean cities.

Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. You should avoid areas of demonstrations and exercise caution if in the vicinity of any large gatherings, protests, or demonstrations. Review your personal security plans, remain aware of your surroundings, including local events, and monitor local news stations for updates. Be vigilant and take appropriate steps to enhance your personal security.

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling or residing abroad enroll in the Department of State's <u>Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP)</u> at the <u>State Department's website</u>. STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates and makes it easier for the U.S. embassy or nearest U.S. consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Monitor the current Travel Warnings and Travel Alerts, and the Worldwide Caution on the State Department's website. Read the Country Specific

<u>Information for Republic of Korea</u> . For additional information, refer to the "Traveler's Checklist".

Contact the U.S. embassy or consulate for up-to-date information on travel restrictions. You can also call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). Follow us on Twitter and Facebook to have travel information at your fingertips.

The U.S. Embassy in Seoul is located at 188 Sejong-daero, Jongno-gu and is open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., telephone 02 397-4000. If you are a U.S. citizen in need of urgent assistance *outside of business hours*, **the emergency after-hours number for the U.S. Embassy/Consulate is 02 397-4114.**